



Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



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Media Contact: Vince Matthews

Idaho Potato Production Up 11 Percent from 2011

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 143 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year's 129 million cwt, and 27 percent above the 2010 crop. Planted acres of 345,000 and harvested acres of 344,000 are up 25,000 acres from 2011. Statewide, yield per acre is estimated to be a record 416 cwt, up 12 cwt from last year. Yield per acre in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 520 cwt, decreased 20 cwt from last year. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 20,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 1,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 1 percent from last year at 10.4 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield per acre is estimated at 410 cwt, compared to 395 cwt a year ago. Other area production from 324,000 harvested acres is expected to total 133 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 119 million cwt. Idaho's sugarbeet production for 2012 is forecast at 6.46 million tons, up 7 percent from the 6.05 million tons produced a year ago. Yield of 35.5 tons per acre is up from last year's 34.4 tons per acre and if realized, is a new record high. Harvested acres of 182,000 are up from 2011's 176,000 harvested acres. Idaho's dry edible pea production is estimated at 494,000 cwt, an increase of 83 percent from the 270,000 cwt produced in 2011. Yield of 1,900 pounds per acre is up 100 pounds per acre from last year. Harvested acres of 26,000 are up from 2011's 15,000 harvested acres. Lentil production of 384,000 cwt is up 9 percent from last year's 351,000 cwt. Yield of 1,200 pounds per acre is down from last year's yield of 1,300 pounds per acre. Acreage harvested for 2012, at 32,000 acres, is up from last year's 27,000 harvested acres. Austrian winter pea production of 60,000 cwt is down 29 percent from the 85,000 cwt produced in 2011. Yield of 1,200 pounds per acre is down 500 pounds per acre from last year. Harvested acres of 5,000 are unchanged from 2011.

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2012 is forecast at 422 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 991,500 acres, is up 6 percent from last year. The average yield forecast, at 426 cwt per acre, is up 10 cwt per acre from last year's yield. Sugarbeet production for the U. S. is forecast at 34.9 million tons, up 21 percent from last year's production of 28.8 million tons. Area for harvest, at 1.22 million acres, is up slightly from last year. Yields are expected to average 28.8 tons per acre, up 5.0 tons from last year. Dry edible pea production for the U. S. is expected to total 11.5 million cwt, up 104 percent from the 2011 estimate. Lentil production, at 5.25 million cwt is up 11 percent from last year. Austrian winter pea production of 147,000 cwt is down 18 percent from 2011.